IN THE MATTER OF THE \* BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC

APPLICATION OF DIANE PATTON \*

AND JOHN ANTONY FOREMAN \* BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD

ON BEHALF OF LOUISCO COLUMBIA, \*

LLC, t/a PETIT LOUIS BISTRO FOR AN \* FOR

EXTENSION OF PREMISES ON A \*

CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR \* HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

7-DAY ON-SALE LICENSE \*

\* Case No. 15-29

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Board of License Commissioners for Howard County, Maryland (the "Liquor Board"), pursuant to Rule 1.02(A) of the Rules and Regulations of the Liquor Board, has delegated the authority to hear and decide cases to the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board for Howard County, Maryland (the "Hearing Board").

On July 14, 2015, the Hearing Board heard the application of Diane Patton and John Antony Foreman ("Applicants"), on behalf of LouisCo Columbia, LLC, t/a Petit Louis Bistro ("LouisCo Columbia, LLC"), for an extension of premises to add a 895 square foot outdoor patio area to the existing 6,943 square foot restaurant and 471 square foot outdoor patio area to the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7 day on-sale license for restaurant located at 10215 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, Maryland 21044. The hearing was properly advertised pursuant to Article 2B of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were represented by Sang W. Oh, Esquire. There were no protestants who appeared in opposition to the application.

The following documents were presented to the Hearing Board and entered into the record: a letter dated May 4, 2015, from the office of the attorney for the Applicants enclosing the application; a copy of the proposed floor plan; background investigation questionnaires for the Applicants; a memorandum dated June 4, 2015, from the Liquor Board to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The application in this case requested a 1,000 square foot expansion to the restaurant for a comptoir and the 895 square foot outdoor patio expansion. This was in error because the comptoir area of the restaurant had been previously licensed. The extension of the licensed premises is limited to the 895 square foot outdoor patio. Although the advertising in this case described a 1,000 square foot expansion of the existing 6,943 square foot restaurant, because the advertising overstated, rather than understated the extension and because the patio

Alcoholic Beverage Inspector, the Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits, the Bureau of Environmental Health, the Office of the Fire Marshall, and the Department of Planning and Zoning; background investigations of the Applicants from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector dated July 10, 2015; a memorandum dated July 7, 2015, from the Department of Planning and Zoning; a letter dated June 4, 2015, to the Department of Finance; a letter dated June 8, 2015, from the Department of Finance; a letter dated June 4, 2015, to the Comptroller of Maryland; a letter dated June 17, 2015, from the Comptroller of Maryland; a fax transmission dated June 14, 2015, to the attorney for the Applicants enclosing a letter notifying them of the hearing date and the necessity to advertise; an e-mail dated June 17, 2015, from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector stating the premises had been posted, and a letter dated July 10, 2015, from the attorney for the Applicants enclosing certification of advertisement from Howard County Times and the Baltimore Sun.

## **SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

John Antony Foreman, Authorized Member and 85% shareholder for LouisCo Columbia, LLC, t/a Petit Louis Bistro, was sworn and testified that they are applying for an addition of 895 square feet to an outdoor patio area. Mr. Foreman testified that customers have been requesting more outdoor dining area. Mr. Foreman testified that they will have the same planters isolating the seating area that they have on the other outdoor area. Mr. Foreman testified that if approved, they will have waiters and a station in the outdoor area that will be monitored at all times.

Mr. Foreman testified that they have been operating for a year without any violations. Mr. Foreman testified that they have followed all of the laws.

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicants waived their right to request the Liquor Board to hear the case.

Based on the evidence presented at the hearing, the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Hearing Board finds that Diane Patton and John Antony Foreman on behalf of LouisCo Columbia, LLC, t/a Petit Louis Bistro, have applied for an extension of

expansion was included, the advertising was in substantial compliance with the public notice requirements of Article 2B.

premises to add a 895 square foot outdoor patio area to the existing 6,943 square foot restaurant and 471 outdoor patio area for the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7 day on-sale license for a restaurant located at 10215 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, Maryland 21044.

- 2. The Hearing Board finds that the Applicants are fit and proper persons to hold an alcoholic beverage license.
- 3. The Hearing Board finds that Diane Patton has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and a 10% shareholder of LouisCo Columbia, LLC. t/a Petit Louis Bistro.
- 4. The Hearing Board finds that the granting of the application is necessary for the accommodation of the public.
- 5. The Hearing Board finds that the granting of this application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents in the neighborhood.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Hearing Board concludes that Diane Patton and John Antony Foreman on behalf of LouisCo Columbia, LLC. t/a Petit Louis Bistro, have applied for an extension of premises to add a 895 square foot outdoor patio area to the existing 6,943 square foot restaurant and 471 outdoor patio area for the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7 day on-sale license for a restaurant located at 10215 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, Maryland 21044.
- 2. The Hearing Board concludes that the Applicants are fit and proper persons to hold an alcoholic beverage license.
- 3. The Hearing Board concludes that Diane Patton meets the requirements of Rules 1.09(T), 1.09(U), and 2.10 of the Board's Rules and Regulations concerning resident agent qualifications.
- 4. The Hearing Board concludes that the granting of the application is necessary for the accommodation of the public.
- 5. The Hearing Board concludes that the granting of this application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents in the neighborhood.

For the foregoing reasons, it is this day of day of 2015, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, Maryland, ORDERED that the application of Diane Patton and John Antony Foreman on behalf of LouisCo

Columbia, LLC, t/a Petit Louis Bistro, for an extension of premises to add a 895 square foot outdoor patio area to the existing 6,943 square foot restaurant and 471 outdoor patio area for the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7 day on-sale license for a restaurant located at 10215 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, Maryland 21044, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

- 1. That this **PROPOSED DECISION AND ORDER** shall become final when the Applicants obtain the license and comply with the following conditions:
  - (a) That the Applicants comply with all State and County rules and regulations; and
  - (b) Failure to comply with these conditions and obtain the license by August 31, 2015; shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

Denise E. King Administrator

Mary Bird, Chairperson

Huny Crams, III dt Harry Evans, III, Vice-Chairperson

REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF LAW GARY W. KUC COUNTY SOLICITOR

Charles C. Feaga, Member

Heather Gaetano, Member

Lewis Taylor, Esquire
Assistant County Solicitor

Charley Osung, Member